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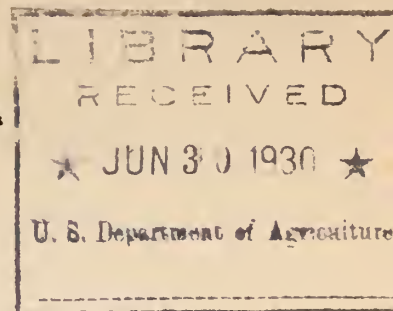
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington

F.S.  
AL-35

June 20, 1930.

FOREIGN NEWS ON NUTS

MEDITERRANEAN ALMOND PROSPECTS



Latest estimates from the important almond producing areas of the Mediterranean Basin indicate a crop about 10 per cent below that of 1929, according to a cable received in the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from Mr. Niels I. Nielsen, American Agricultural Commissioner at Marseille, France. As the stocks in this area are somewhat larger than last year, however, it is quite likely that the amount available for market this fall will be approximately the same as that for 1929. The quality of the 1930 crop, which will be harvested in August and September, now promises to be very good.

Production and Stocks

Italy and Sicily

Production in Apulia, consisting of the three provinces of Bari, Lettchia and Foggia on the east coast of Italy, is estimated at 20,500 short tons of shelled nuts as against 32,000 short tons in 1929. Bari as a rule produces about 90 per cent of the crop in Apulia. The production of Palma Gargenti almonds in Sicily will amount to about 16,500 short tons of shelled nuts as against 17,000 short tons in 1929. The Sicilian production of Avolas, the finest almonds produced on the Island, will amount to about 3,900 short tons of shelled nuts as compared with 500 short tons in 1929. Stocks in Bari on June 1 amounted to 8,800 short tons of shelled nuts as against 4,400 short tons on June 1, 1929. Sicilian stocks of Palma Gargenti are estimated at 2,800 short tons of shelled nuts as against 1,650 short tons on the corresponding date in 1929.

Spain

The almond crop in Spain will amount to approximately 19,100 short tons as compared with 20,000 short tons in 1928, unshelled basis. In the northern producing areas of the country, around Tarragona and Barcelona, the crop will amount to 2,800 short tons of Molares and 2,500 short tons of other varieties as compared with 3,900 short tons of Molares and 3,300 short tons of other varieties last season. The crop in the central producing areas, around Alicante and Valencia, will amount to about 10,000 short tons as against 8,400 short tons in 1928. In southern Spain, around Malaga, the crop is estimated at 1,500 short tons of Jordans and 3,300 short tons of other varieties as compared with 1,500 short tons of Jordans and 2,900 short tons of other varieties last year. The 1930 almond crop in the Balearic Islands is now estimated at 5,000 short tons of unshelled nuts as compared with 3,500 short tons in 1929. June 1 stocks of Spanish almonds, mostly in the Balearic Islands and in the Alicante-Valencia district of the mainland, are estimated at 3,150 short tons of shelled nuts as against 4,000 short tons on June 1, 1929.

France

It is believed that the 1930 French almond crop will be about double that of 1929, which was below normal. Production in France, however, is a relatively small part of the total almond crop of the Mediterranean Basin.

## ALMONDS: Production in Italy, Sicily and Spain, 1929 and 1930

Region	1929	1930
	<u>Short tons</u>	<u>Short tons</u>
Italy:	<u>Shelled</u>	<u>Shelled</u>
Apulia .....	32,000	20,500
Sicily:		
Avolas .....	500	3,900
Palma Girgenti .....	17,000	16,500
Spain:	<u>Unshelled</u>	<u>Unshelled</u>
Tarragona-Barcelona		
Molares .....	3,900	2,800
Others .....	3,300	2,500
Alicante-Valencia .....	8,400	10,000
Malaga		
Jordans .....	1,500	1,500
Others .....	2,900	3,300
Balearic Islands .....	3,500	5,000

Price Situation

Prices quoted on old stocks almonds c.i.f. New York on June 1 were lower than those quoted on June 1, 1929. Very little improvement is expected in the price situation as new crop nuts are being offered at only slightly above present low levels. Buyers and sellers seem to be very indifferent at the present time and very little, if any, business is being transacted.

## SHELLED ALMONDS: Spot prices c.i.f. New York, in dollars per 100 pounds June 1, 1930, with comparisons a/

Grade	Old crop nuts		New crop	
	June 1, 1929	May 1, 1930	June 1, 1930	June 1, 1930
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Marconas Current .....	34.28	29.65	29.10	-
Prima Bari, average quality .....	27.77	23.43	22.15	22.56
Palma Girgenti, average quality .....	28.21	23.43	22.56	22.78

a/ Prices given in dollars per 100 pounds.



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FOREIGN NEWS ON NUTS

MEDITERRANEAN ALMOND PRODUCTION AND MARKET PROSPECTS

The following written report on almond production and market prospects in the Mediterranean Basin for 1930 has just been received in the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from Mr. N. I. Nielsen, American Agricultural Commissioner at Marseille. This report supplements Foreign News on Nuts, AL-35, dated June 20, based on a cable from Mr. Nielsen.

Production and stocks

According to present indications, the combined production of almonds in Italy, Spain and France, during 1930, will probably be about 10 per cent under that of a year ago. Stocks on hand in this area, however, are estimated to be somewhat larger than at this time in 1929. For that reason it is quite likely that there will be approximately as many almonds available for market this fall as there were at the opening of the season last year.

Italy and Sicily

Prospects in the Bari district in Italy are now regarded as fair and somewhat above the general outlook of a month ago. The crop, however, is expected to be considerably under that of 1929 which was a bumper production. As a result of the unusually heavy production of a year ago, present stocks are large. This fact, together with the tonnage estimated for the coming season, indicates that the supply for this fall will be quite liberal.

The crop of Avolas in Sicily last year was practically a failure, amounting to only 500 short tons. Climatic conditions this spring were favorable and as a result a good yield is anticipated. Stocks are negligible. The situation from the production standpoint is also regarded as satisfactory for Palma Girgentis. There is every indication that the yield will approximate the production of 1929. Since stocks are larger than last year there will be at least as many, if not more, almonds of this class available for market compared with a year ago.

Spain

For the country as a whole, the 1930 production of almonds may exceed slightly the crop produced last season. It must be remembered, however, that the crop of a year ago was not heavy and considerably under the yield produced in 1928. Present stocks, however, are estimated to be smaller, so that supplies this fall will probably be no larger than those of last season.

Climatic conditions in the Tarragona-Barcelona district have not been conducive to the proper development of the crop. As a result, lighter yields of both Mollares and other almonds than were produced a year ago are indicated. Stocks are regarded as light. In the Alicante-Valencia area, the outlook is for a yield above the production of 1929. Stocks are also estimated as a little larger as exports have been comparatively small. The production of Malaga Jordans will approximate last season's yield while Malaga Valencias are expected to yield more than were produced last season. On account of storms in April, the outlook in Mallorca has been reduced. The yield, although not expected to be heavy, is estimated above that of last season, but somewhat under the crop of two years ago.

France

Climatic conditions in Southern France have been favorable. Although the total annual yield in this area is comparatively small, the estimated yield for 1930 is about twice the production of 1929.

## ALMONDS: Production and stocks in Italy, Sicily and Spain

Region	1929-30		1930-31	
	Stocks	Estimated	Stocks	Estimated
	June 1,	Production:	June 1,	Production
	1929	1929	1930	1930
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
<u>Italy</u>				
Bari, shelled .....	4,400	32,000	8,800	20,500
Sicily:				
Avolas, shelled .....	--	500	--	3,900
Palma Girgentis, shelled ..	1,650	17,000	2,800	16,500
Total .....	6,050	49,500	11,600	40,900
<u>Spain</u>				
Tarragona and Barcelona:				
Mollares, unshelled .....	600	3,900	300	2,800
Others, shelled .....	a/	3,300	250	2,500
Alicante and Valencia:				
shelled .....	a/	8,400	1,000	10,000
Malaga:				
Jordans, shelled .....	a/	1,500	250	1,500
Valencias, shelled .....	a/	2,900	250	2,300
Mallorca, shelled .....	a/	3,500	1,100	5,000
Total unshelled .....	600	3,900	300	2,800
Total shelled .....	3,400	19,600	2,850	21,300

a/ No data by districts.

NOTE: In the earlier report (FS-AL35) all Spanish almond figures were incorrectly shown as on an "unshelled" basis.

Market situation

As indicated in the following table, prices have continued to decline and very little if any improvement is expected. Stocks are sufficient to care for all needs between now and harvest. Furthermore, it is the general opinion that the coming crop will be large enough to meet demands this fall and winter, except perhaps in the case of Jordans. The fact that little improvement is anticipated is best indicated by offerings of new crop almonds, September and October delivery, at prices only slightly above the present low offerings of old crop almonds. Both buyers and sellers are indifferent as far as the new crop is concerned. As a result, very little if any business has been transacted.

SHELLED ALMONDS: Spot prices in dollare per 100 pounds, C.and F.New York

Grade	Old crop nuts				June 1
					offerings
					new crop
	June 1, 1929	May 1, 1930	June 1, 1930	Sept.-Oct.	
					delivery
	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>Dollars</u>	
Marconas, current quality ..	34.28	29.65	29.10	-	
Prima Bari, average quality :	27.77	23.43	22.13	22.56	
Palma Girgentis, average					
quality .....	28.21	23.43	22.56	22.78	

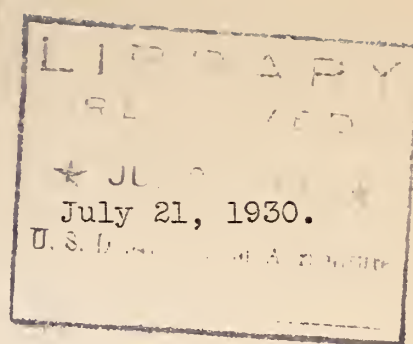






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FOREIGN NEWS ON ALMONDS

MEDITERRANEAN ALMOND PRODUCTION AND MARKET PROSPECTS

Weather conditions during June were favorable to the growing almond crop in practically all of the important producing districts of the Mediterranean Basin, according to a cable received in the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from Agricultural Commissioner Neilsen at Marseille. No change has been made in the production estimates for Italy, Spain and France. More complete information from the producing regions in North Africa indicate that the crop there this year will be slightly smaller than last year. Reports from Portugal, on the other hand indicate a larger crop than in 1929. Estimates for the Mediterranean Basin as a whole, however, still point to a decline of about 10 per cent in the 1930-31 crop as compared with 1929-30.

The almond market in the Mediterranean Basin at the present time is rather dull with prices showing a downward tendency. Very little business is being transacted because growers in general expect an improvement in the market when the new crop is harvested. Foreign buyers are showing very little interest in the offerings of new crop nuts and as a result practically none have been sold as yet. Stocks of old crop almonds in the different producing areas continue in about the same relation as reported last month with the bulk in Sicily and Italy, especially in Bari. Stocks in Tunis, Algeria and Morocco are reported as small.

ALMONDS: Prices C.&F. New York per 100 pounds,  
July 1, 1929 and 1930

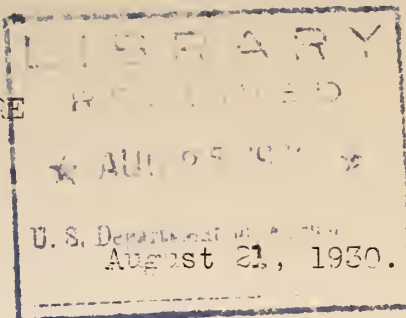
Grade	Old crop		New crop
	July 1, 1929	July 1, 1930	July 1, 1930
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Prima Bari			
Current quality, shelled .....	26.90	26.25	22.13
Palma Girgenti, average			
Quality, shelled .....	28.42	22.35	22.35
Avolas, current quality, shelled ...	-	-	23.87
Marconas, current quality, shelled .	34.28	-	27.89
Mollaras, unshelled .....	14.33	-	11.46

ALMONDS: Estimated production in the Mediterranean Basin,  
1929-30 and 1930-31

Country and region	1929-30	1930-31
	Estimated	Estimated
	production	production
	1929	1930
	Short tons	Short tons
<u>Italy</u>		
Bari, shelled .....	32,000	20,500
Sicily:		
Avolas, shelled .....	500	3,900
Palma Girgentis, shelled .....	17,000	16,500
Total, shelled .....	49,500	40,900
<u>Spain</u>		
Tarragona and Barcelona:		
Mollares, unshelled .....	3,900	2,800
Others, shelled .....	3,300	2,500
Alicante and Valencia:		
shelled .....	8,400	10,000
Malaga:		
Jordans, shelled .....	1,500	1,500
Valencias, shelled .....	2,900	2,300
Mallorca, shelled .....	3,500	3,000
Total, shelled .....	19,600	21,300
Total, unshelled .....	3,900	2,800
<u>North Africa</u>		
Tunis, unshelled .....	2,060	1,600
Morocco (French), shelled .....	3,850	2,000
Algeria, unshelled .....	2,000	2,000 <sub>a/</sub>
Total, shelled .....	3,850	2,000
Total, unshelled .....	4,060	3,600
<u>Portugal</u> , shelled .....	492	825
GRAND TOTAL, shelled .....	73,448	65,025
unshelled .....	7,960	6,400

a/ Will be slightly less than 2,000.

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FOREIGN NEWS ON ALMONDS

MEDITERRANEAN ALMOND PRODUCTION AND MARKET PROSPECTS

The available supplies of almonds, shelled and unshelled in the districts of commercial importance in the Mediterranean Basin are estimated at about 37 per cent of the supply that was available at the opening of the season last year, according to a cable received in the Foreign Agricultural Service from Agricultural Commissioner Nielsen at Marseille. The 1930 crop is now estimated at 9 per cent below that of 1929 but stocks are believed to be around 50 per cent larger than at this time last year.

The total almond crop for the Mediterranean Basin is placed at 6,650 short tons unshelled and 67,260 short tons of shelled nuts as compared with 7,750 short tons of unshelled and 73,300 short tons of shelled nuts last year. Present almond stocks are placed at 250 tons of unshelled and 12,130 tons of shelled as against 500 tons of unshelled and 7,560 tons of shelled at this time last year.

The almond market at the present time is very quiet with prices showing a downward tendency. Foreign buyers are holding off in the hope of still lower levels. Practically no purchases of new crop nuts have been made as yet by American dealers. Local dealers are of the opinion that foreign buyers will be compelled to make some purchases in the near future and this may cause a temporary improvement in the market. No continued improvement is expected, however, on account of the large supplies in prospect and the decreased purchasing power in large consuming markets.

ALMONDS: Prices C. & F. New York per 100 pounds,  
July 1, 1930 and August 1, 1929 and 1930

Grade	July 1,	August 1	
	1930	1929	1930
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Prima Bari			
Current quality, shelled .....	22.13	28.68	21.51
Palma Girgenti			
Average shelled .....	22.35	28.89	21.09
Avolas, current quality, shelled ...	23.87	-	22.38
Jordans, 4 crown .....	-	43.78	40.88
Valencias, 3 crown .....	-	32.15	25.20
Marconas, current quality, shelled .	27.89	35.09	27.81
Mollares, unshelled, current quality	11.46	14.35	11.70

